

# WEDDING GUIDELINES

## PARISH OF ST THERESE MASCOT

### BOOKINGS (FOR WEDDINGS HELD FROM JANUARY 1, 2023)

A proposed time and date should be checked by contacting the Parish Office on  
**9667 3040** or **sttherese@ozemail.com.au**

### CHURCH OFFERING DONATION

- \$500.00 (non-tax deductible) - to confirm the booking donation must be received within four weeks of contacting the Parish Office.

### CANCELLATIONS

- Cancellations must be received in writing.
- Phone cancellations are not acceptable.
- A cancellation fee of \$100.00 will be charged.

### CELEBRANT

- A Priest of the Parish is available to officiate at your wedding.
- If for any reason he is not available
  - \* any Catholic priest or deacon registered with the civil authorities as a Celebrant of Marriage may officiate;
  - \* the Parish Priest must be advised in advanced and give his approval;
  - \* the celebrant's name, address, and telephone number to be given to the secretary at the time of booking;
  - \* if the priest is from another diocese, permission must be obtained.

### OFFERINGS FOR THE PRIEST/CELEBRANT

- The donation is a personal gift from the couple to the priest.
- It covers marriage preparation, planning for the ceremony, conducting the ceremony and legal documentation.
- There is a donation of **\$500.00** (non- tax deductible) to the celebrant.
- If you arrange your own celebrant from outside the Parish, it is best to speak to the celebrant himself in regards to this matter.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

- A Wedding Preparation Course **must** be completed prior to attending the appointment with the Celebrant to fill out your paper work.
- Information for courses can be obtained from:

**Catholic Care – Marriage and Relationship Education**

**Phone: 02 9509 1234      Email: mre@catholiccare.org**

**Website: www.catholiccare.org**

## PAPERWORK REQUIRED

For Both Parties	Birth Certificate Photo ID
For Catholic Party(ies)	Baptism Certificate - dated within seven (6) months of the date of wedding ceremony. <b>Even if you were baptised overseas.</b> <i>NB If your Confirmation details are not noted on the Baptism Certificate a Certificate of the Sacrament of Confirmation must also be presented.</i> <i>To get an up to date copy of your Baptism Certificate contact the Parish where you were baptised and request a copy of the Certificate <b>for Marriage purposes.</b></i>
For Catholic Party(ies)	If you reside outside of the Parish a letter of permission to marry at our Parish must be obtained from your Parish Priest.
For Non-Catholic Baptised Party	Baptism Certificate - dated within seven (6) months of the date of wedding ceremony.
For Non-Baptised Party	Single Status Certificate from the Government
For Widowed Party (ies)	Previous Marriage Certificate Death Certificate of previous spouse
For Divorced Party (ies) where marriage has been annulled	Previous Marriage Certificate Decree Nisi Canonical Decree of Nullity or Dissolution
For Both Parties	Marriage Course Certificate issued by Catholic Care

## THE CEREMONY

- Marriage ceremonies in the Church follow 'The Rite of Marriage'
- Marriages when both parties are Catholics be celebrated with a Nuptial Mass.  
This presupposes that the couple attend Sunday Mass regularly thus being prepared for the reception of the Eucharist during their Nuptial Mass.
- In the case of Mixed Marriages (where one party to the marriage is not a Catholic), the Church requires -
  - \* that the Catholic party have its permission to contract such a marriage;
  - \* the Catholic party must also intend to continue living the catholic faith, and to pass on that faith to their children;
  - \* the non-Catholic party is asked to recognise and appreciate the Church's concerns;
  - \* the ceremony in a mixed marriage usually follows the Rite of Marriage Outside Mass.

## REHEARSAL

- At least one month in advance of ceremony.
- Must be arranged with your Celebrant and the Parish Secretary.

## TIME OF ARRIVAL

- Ceremony must commence at time arranged.
- Late arrival by bride could result in service being shortened.
- Avoid upsets by making punctuality a priority out of respect for the priest and your guests.

## MUSIC FOR CEREMONY

- Music chosen for the wedding should be in keeping and respect for the Church.
- Copyright details of the music played during the ceremony must be provided to the Parish Secretary prior to the wedding date.

## FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

- The Church makes no special floral arrangements for weddings.
- You are required to make your own arrangements.
- Only Pew decorations attached by ribbons are allowed.
- Pew decorations not removed after the ceremony will be disposed of.
- No Altar flowers during Lent and Advent. (Floral arrangements will need to be brought in and removed after the ceremony.)

## PHOTOGRAPHY

- Respectful use of camera/video is permitted during the ceremony.
- Professional photographers should discuss this with celebrant before the ceremony.

## THROWING OF CONFETTI

- Use of confetti, rice, flower petals etc **strictly forbidden** within -
  - \* St. Therese Church;
  - \* the Church steps;
  - \* and/or on any other part of the Church property.

## WEDDING BOOKLET

- The Celebrant should be consulted about the contents and approved by him before printing.
- Booklet must be in accordance with the Rite of marriage of the Roman Catholic Church as approved for use in Australia.

## CHURCH PARKING

- Bridal cars only may park in the special space in front of the church.
- No parking whatsoever is allowed within the church grounds or driveway.